

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 14077 070759Z  
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 DHA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01  
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SCA-00 /076 W  
-----124105 070830Z /20  
R 070830Z SEP 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4778  
INFO USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 14077

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: SHUM, ICRC, RP  
SUBJECT: ICRC MISSIONS TO THE PHILIPPINES

REF: GENEVA 7119

1. WE HAVE RECEIVED A COPY OF A LETTER DATED JUNE 27 FROM  
AMBASSADOR EDUARDO ROMULDEZ TO CONGRESSMAN BERKLEY BEDELL  
REFERRING TO THE CONGRESSMAN'S STATEMENT ON THE PHILIPPINES  
MADE ON THE FLOOR OF THE HOUSE MAY 23. ROMUALDEZ' LETTER  
ENCLOSES A NINE-PAGE LETTER OF JUNE 14 FROM DND SECRETARY  
ENRILE TO DFA SECRETARY ROMULO IN WHICH ENRILE PRESENTS  
A "POINT-BY-POINT REFUTATION" OF THE VARIOUS HUMAN RIGHTS  
ISSUES RAISED BY THE CONGRESSMAN. AMONG THE POINTS MADE  
BY ENRILE IN A SECTION ENTITLED "MALTREATMENT OF PRISONERS"  
IS THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT: QUOTE. THE INTERNATIONAL  
COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS HAS CONDUCTED YEARLY VISITS  
TO PHILIPPINE DETENTION CENTERS SINCE 1973 AND INVARIABLY  
FOUND CONDITIONS SATISFACTORY. ANY INADEQUACIES NOTED WERE  
IMMEDIATELY REMEDIED BY THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT. ADMITTEDLY,  
DESPITE THE MOST STRINGENT MEASURES TO PREVENT MALTREATMENT  
OF DETAINEES, ISOLATED VIOLATIONS DO OCCUR DUE TO HUMAN  
FRAILITY. THIS WE CANNOT AVOID. BUT THE GOVERNMENT NEITHER  
TOLERATES NOR CONDONES SUCH VIOLATIONS. UNQUOTE.  
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2. NOTWITHSTANDING THE "TOP SECRET" LABEL WHICH THE ICRC  
EVIDENTLY PLACES ON ITS INSPECTIONS OF DETENTION FACILITIES  
(REFTEL), WE WOULD HOPE THAT MISSION GENEVA MIGHT SEEK A  
SUBSTANTIVE READING ON THE RECENT ICRC INSPECTION OF  
POLITICAL DETAINEES IN THE PHILIPPINES. THIS WOULD BE USEFUL  
TO US IN VIEW OF OUR CONTINUING CONCERN ABOUT THE ROOTING

OUT OF TORTURE AND OTHER VIOLATIONS OF THE INTEGRITY OF THE  
PERSON IN THE PHILIPPINES AND IN THE LIGHT OF ASSISTANT  
SECRETARY HOLBROOKE'S IMPENDING VISIT HERE. WE WOULD  
PARTICULARLY LIKE TO KNOW OF ANY RECENT CASES OF TORTURE  
(SAY, OVER THE PAST TWO MONTHS) TURNED UP BY THE ICRC  
INSPECTION TEAM. WE WOULD ALSO BE INTERESTED IN KNOWING  
IF ICRC AUTHORITIES AGREE WITH THE GOP'S ASSERTION THAT  
ICRC MISSIONS TO THE PHILIPPINES HAVE FOUND CONDITIONS IN  
THE DENTENTION CENTERS "INVARIABLY... SATISFACTORY.  
STULL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** HUMAN RIGHTS, DETENTION, INSPECTIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 07-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977MANILA14077  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770323-0078  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 GENEVA 7119  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1366737  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ICRC MISSIONS TO THE PHILIPPINES  
**TAGS:** SHUM, RP, US, ICRC  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009